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THE LEADING DAILY IN WESTERN ONTARIO

SWORN CIRCULATION.

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London, Tuesday, Jan. 15.

The Court House.

Mr. Justice Rose, at a recent sitting of the High Court, referred to the unsanitary condition of the court house, and Mr. Justice Robertson has followed it up by reminiscences of the court house, in the days of his infancy, and strongly condemns the building as unsanitary.

We pointed out when Mr. Justice Rose referred to the age of the court house, he was mistaken, and Mr. Justice Robertson is equally mistaken in supposing that the present court house is the one he saw in his early days. As a matter of fact, the present court house was built in 1878. All that remains of the old building is the western wall, or rear part. The front part, including the judges' room, is entirely new.

Is the court house unsanitary, or an ill-ventilated building? We have the highest authority for saying that the ventilation could not be much improved; that the means taken for ventilation in 1878 is quite up-to-date. We notice some changes going on in the plumbing at the present time, and it is not being attended to a day too soon; but how long the new plumbing will last if it is used as badly as was the old plumbing, it is difficult to say. Put in the best plumbing on earth, and use it as the plumbing in the court house is used, and it will soon become unhealthy.

But as to the court room itself, in what does the lack of ventilation consist? The judge is elevated above the crowd and doubtless gets the worst of it. But tear down the court house, and build one absolutely perfect in every respect, then let in the usual crowd that attend a murder trial, and we doubt, even if there were nothing between the crowd and the "clear blue vault of heaven," whether the ventilation would be sufficient. The judge would need to tear the walls down, and change his seat according to the direction of the wind. It is also stated that the smell of cooking has something to do with it.

The remedy for the immediate use of the court house and the health of the judges and officials is to see that the janitor does his duty; that the smell of cooking is kept out; and that crowds are not allowed in the court house. No building, however perfect, will fail to smell of cooking if cooking is going on in the building. Nor can you fill a court room to overflowing and have a desirable atmosphere.

No indictment against the County of Middlesex would be likely to stick. However desirable a new court house may be, we do not believe its erection could be forced on the county on the ground that the present one is unsanitary. Until the City Council and County Council join together for the purpose of erecting joint municipal buildings that will be in keeping with the wealth and importance of a great county like Middlesex, and a city like London, the commercial capital of Western Ontario, we must needs just keep on as we are. It is stated that until Osgoode Hall is opened up for some time and ventilated the atmosphere is none too good there also.

New Work For the New Century.

The problem of developing New Ontario—that vast territory stretching for 700 miles from Sudbury to the eastern boundary of Manitoba—looms up as the chief problem for the attention of provincial statesmen in these opening days of the new century. The resources of its millions of virgin acres can only be guessed at, for much of the country has not even been surveyed, and indeed, some parts, which will probably prove to be of great value, have scarcely been explored. With what reason, then, may the people congratulate themselves that the work of utilizing the riches of this vast territory is in the hands of the Rykerts, the Langevins, and the Carons of federal notoriety, but in those of men of proved integrity, and possessing the unquestioning confidence of the people: men who have shown themselves capable by knowledge and by experience; men who, after administering the affairs of the Province faithfully and well for 30 years—the ordinary lifetime of a generation, the longest period of continuous office of any known representative government in this or any other age—have now shown that they are not only possessed of the experience of age, but have also the courage and energy of youth. Having enunciated a comprehensive, statesmanlike and far-seeing policy of development, they have set about the work in right good earnest and already the progress which has been made is nothing short of phenomenal. If upon this question alone the Ross Administration appeals to the electorate, when by process of law the life of the present Legislature expires, there cannot possibly be but one result.

Need and Importance of Small-pox Isolation.

While there is nothing alarming in these days in the fact of a case of smallpox, under control, a pressing word of caution may not be amiss. We presume the Board of Health have the matter fully considered, and will do all that can be done to stamp the disease out at the earliest possible date. The powers of the Board of Health are extensive, but they ought to be unlimited. An eminent physician, once speaking of a house in which the disease had been, said it would not like to live in it five years after. There would be on account of broken plaster, etc., danger even at that distance of time. A number of cases have often been directly traced to one house. This proves the value of isolation and caution.

The same physician said there should be a house obtained for isolation purposes, which, as soon as the disease was stamped out, should be destroyed. This seems a reasonable course. The old isolation building that once stood on the bank of the river has been long since destroyed.

We believe prevention can be accomplished to a great extent in any city if prompt action is taken before disease spreads. If the right action is not taken, some of our Canadian cities may find themselves in the position of Winona, Minnesota, which, though about one-third the size of London, has 700 cases of smallpox. Modern hygienic science can nowadays always conquer smallpox in the end; but the inconvenience and loss are often considerable during the interval. There is a good deal of smallpox in various parts of the United States with which Canada is in constant communication. As we have said there is need in London only for precaution; but forewarned is forearmed, and the mayor and the Board of Health will be expected to take, and will be sustained in taking, every prompt precautionary measure, however drastic.

\$2,500,000 in Our Pockets.

The Department of Finance has been advised that official notice has been given in the London Gazette of the admission of Dominion stocks to the list of securities in which trust funds may be invested. This makes effective the arrangement between the Imperial and the Dominion Governments that was announced by Mr. Fielding in his budget speech last March. On that occasion the Finance Minister pointed out that the difference between the selling price of a security admitted to the trustee list and one shut off from the list is from two to three points. In time the difference will probably be even greater, because under the influence of the present important improvement the securities will approach very nearly the value of British consols. Calculating, however, at the moderate estimate of 2 per cent on the loans which Canada will have to place in England in the next ten years, the saving will not be less than \$2,500,000 to the Canadian treasury. It is a satisfaction to friends of the Government to feel that it can claim the whole and entire credit for this splendid achievement, for when the matter was under discussion in the House, Mr. Foster and other Conservative leaders frankly admitted that they had tried to get this same concession and had absolutely failed. The truth of the matter is that the Imperial Government had not sufficient confidence in the stability of Canadian securities when the Conservatives controlled the exchequer, but things are very different now.

Fiction and Fact.

By a fortunate mistake the ballot boxes for the Atlin district did not reach there in time. This district is in Burrard, the constituency of the Rev. Mr. Maxwell. Had the Atlin people been able to vote they would have declared against the reverend, for it appears they do not revere him, but rather regard him as an impostor. Good fortune—to say nothing of careful management—detained the ballot boxes, and thus Mr. Maxwell was saved. This government knows how to run elections. It is well up in all the little kinks and mistakes which tell against the people.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

The above is the fiction which the organ of the Tories knows so well how to supply. The facts are that the election was duly held in Atlin district, and Mr. Maxwell obtained a majority of 18. The total vote at Burrard, Discover, Atlin and Bennett, being Maxwell, 103; Garden, 90. The Mail and Empire's remark as to careful management is only on a par with its usual electioneering tactics. We leave Mr. McGregor to deal with that statement.—Vancouver, B. C. World.

There is this further fact to be borne in mind, which puts the "criticism" of the Toronto organ in a still more unfavorable light. Even if the entire vote polled at Atlin and Bennett for the Opposition candidate were blotted out, there would still be a majority of over 600 for the successful supporter of the government.

A reader of The Advertiser suggests that a proportion of the Public Library Board should be elected by the people. The idea is a proper one. The Advertiser seconds the motion.

We have received a "New Year's greeting" from Mr. W. K. Atkinson, editor of the Eau Claire (Wisconsin) Leader. The greeting is a check for three hundred and sixty-five happy days on the Bank of Prosperity. We wish Mr. Atkinson, who is one of The Advertiser's graduates, every success.

An "Old London Boy" writes: "London did well in the municipal election. The council is as well as could be expected, and a future incentive has been given to the best men to seek re-election. The 'ward bossing' is largely ended, because useless; the ward canvassing practically goes with it, and that means much."

Passing Paragraphs

Mainly About People.

There is a consensus of opinion as to the appropriateness of the choice of Mr. Edmund Barton, Q.C., leader of the Opposition in the New South Wales Legislature, as the first Prime Minister of the new Australian Commonwealth, which came into existence with the first day of the twentieth century. Mr. Barton, though but 51 years of age, has for many years been the leader in the movement for the confederation of the colonies of Australia. To him more than to any other statesman at the antipodes is due the successful union of the colonies; and to his efforts in the critical negotiations with regard to the Imperial Act bringing the Commonwealth into being, must be credited the final passage of the measure to the satisfaction of the people, and in time to be proclaimed with the new century. Mr. Barton, who is a native of the city of Sydney, held very strong views in reference to the maintenance of the rights of the new Commonwealth, but he is none the less a strong Imperialist, and the Empire will always have a warm defender in the new Prime Minister. As Premier of the Commonwealth, Mr. Barton has the unique experience of being supported by all the Prime Ministers of the colonies going to make it up, including Sir William Lyne, his old antagonist in New South Wales, who was first requested by Lord Hopes, the Governor-General, to form a Ministry, but declined, because he knew that he could not get the support of the colony of Victoria, and for the further reason, which did him credit, that he knew Mr. Barton had always favored federation, while he had been opposed to it. While all the premiers of the colonies of Australia have consented to serve in the first Cabinet, we may expect, as was the case when the Dominion of Canada was federated, that in the near future the cleavage now effected will give place to divisions on party lines. Perhaps the division will come in the first session, which will begin in May next, when the first exciting topic for discussion will be the formulation of a tariff to provide revenue for the new Commonwealth. The Australian Premier has been in public life since he was thirty years of age, and has held office in several governments. He is a man of fine appearance, and an eloquent public speaker.

ROOSEVELT KILLS A MOUNTAIN LION.

One Shot Lands the First One Started by the Hounds—Dr. Webb's Close Call.

Denver, Col., Jan. 15.—Col. Roosevelt has killed his first mountain lion. He and his companions left Meeker for the Keystone ranch, 38 miles northwest of town. Four miles from Meeker, Guide Goff's hounds, which are trained to follow nothing but mountain lions, struck a hot scent. The hunters followed at breakneck speed over a dangerous broken country. The chase continued for eight miles, the hounds at times being so far away as to be scarcely heard. Finally the hunters came up to them with the lion treading in a tall spruce. The hunters all wanted Col. Roosevelt to kill the lion. He insisted upon drawing lots, but the choice fell to him. As he raised his rifle to fire the beast sprang from the tree. A bullet from the colonel's rifle met him in mid-air, passing through the neck and breaking the spine. Dr. Gerald Webb was struck by the animal as it fell, and was knocked to the ground and severely scratched about the shoulder and arm. He was on his feet in an instant, however, and the lion lay dead before him. Dick Stone, a forest ranger with the party, brought the skin to Meeker to have it prepared by a taxidermist, and the rest of the party went on to the Keystone ranch.

Recently there have been several cases of prominent men suddenly falling ill, collapse just after eating a hearty meal. These men have all been under treatment for gastric "trouble," and yet the result shows that the treatment they had received had smothered the symptoms but had not retarded the progress of the disease.

There is a real danger in the use of palliatives when there is disease of the stomach and its allied organs, etc., which is not cured, but only smothered. The disease in such cases goes on, while the distressing symptoms alone are stopped. Presently, like a smothered fire, the disease breaks out in new places, involving heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, or some other organ.

The use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery results in a radical cure of diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. It cures diseases of heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, etc., which are the result of these organs having their origin in the diseased condition of the stomach and digestive and nutritive system.

"I will tell you what myself and family think of your medicine," writes Mr. M. M. Wardwell, of Lincoln, Leavenworth Co., Kansas. "It will do all you say, and more. I was taken sick nine years ago. I got so weak I couldn't lie down, nor hardly sit up; was that way two or three months. I picked up one of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery one day and saw your description of catarrh of the stomach. I thought it hit my case. We had a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery in the house that was got for my mother. You recommended it for catarrh of the stomach, and I bought it. The one bottle nearly cured me. I got two bottles next time and took one and one-half and was well. The doctor cost me fourteen dollars, and the doctor cost me fourteen dollars."

Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser, in paper covers, is sent free on receipt of 31 one-cent stamps, to pay expense of customs and mailing only. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

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Why pay full price for your Sheetings and Pillow Cottons when you can buy them from us during our ANNUAL DISCOUNT SALE at 10 per cent discount off prevailing prices?

Unbleached Sheetings, plain and twill, Bleached Sheet- ing, plain and twill, in 8-4, 9-4 and 10-4 widths, at 10 per cent discount.

Pillow Cottons, heavy and light grades, in plain and circular, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48 and 50 inches wide, at 10 per cent discount.

Mantles

Every Mantle in our stock to be cleared during sale, at 25 and 50 per cent off regular prices.

Blanket Bargains

BLANKETS, \$2 24. Special line of All-Wool Blankets, extra heavy, per pair \$2 24. 10 Per Cent Discount During Sale on All Lines of Blankets.

THE PROTOCOL SIGNED AGAIN

That Noted "Joint Note" Passes Through Chinese Hands.

But There Is Trouble Now About Getting It Sealed—Actual Negotiations Expected to Begin Soon.

London, Jan. 15.—A Peking dispatch of yesterday's date says: "The protocol was signed this morning, the idea of protesting against any clause having been abandoned."

"Prince Ching has notified Senor De Coloman, the Spanish minister, who is the doyen of the diplomatic corps, that the agreement was signed yesterday morning, but that he did not expect to be able to present it to the foreign envoys before Wednesday, owing to the difficulty of obtaining the imperial seal, which, he asserted, is in the forbidden city, and in the private apartments of the emperor, guarded by the emperor's most trusted servants. He said also that a personal order from the emperor would be required before those who have the seal in charge would deliver it even to Prince Ching."

MODIFICATIONS WANTED. Shanghai, Jan. 14.—Kun Wü, viceroy of Nankin, has formulated modifications of the peace conditions, including a reduction of the indemnity, a reduction of the strength of the foreign troops in China, and the preservation of the right to import arms and ammunition. There are indications of a growing belief among the Chinese that one or two of the powers will support these modifications.

NEGOTIATIONS IN PROSPECT. Washington, Jan. 14.—The expectation here is that the signatures of the Chinese plenipotentiaries will be fixed to the note immediately, and that active negotiations will begin at once. These negotiations will be conducted by the ministers now at Peking on the part of the allied powers, and by Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, representing the Chinese.

Tien Tsin, Jan. 14.—The Russian troops, except 1,000 men detailed to guard the legation of Russia and the Tien Tsin and Shan Hai Kuan guards, are evacuating the province of Chi Li and entraining for Kin Chow, Manchuria. It is reported they are going to Mukden.

RETREATED. Field Marshal Count Von Waldsee, telegraphing to Berlin from Peking, under date of Jan. 13, says: "The naval column returns Jan. 14, having ascertained at Kin Ching that the Chinese troops at Sun Hua effected a timely retreat."

FAMINE IN CHEN SI. Shanghai, Jan. 14.—There is a famine in the province of Shen Si, and it is

said that 5,000,000 people are facing starvation.

REV. MR. GAMEWELL'S EXPERIENCE.

New York Jan. 15.—The Rev. F. D. Gamewell, who made himself famous by superintending the work of fortifying the legations at Peking, and but for whom the British minister has said all the diplomatic corps would have perished, in addressing the Methodist preachers' meeting last night, exhibited a copy of a New York newspaper of June 17, with a dispatch dated June 16, in which it was stated that the German minister, Von Ketteler, had been killed.

"I ask you," said Dr. Gamewell, "to conjecture how that event could have been telegraphed four days before it occurred, unless there had been some intrigue to kill the German minister." Von Ketteler was killed by the Boers on June 20. Mr. Gamewell learned, in Charleston, when he was a boy, during the civil war, something about sandbag fortifications, so he utilized this knowledge in Peking.

Peking, Jan. 14.—Russia today began turning over the railway to Germany. The latter intends to place the management of the line with former employees of the company, under military supervision.

MAYORS' MESSAGES

Mr. Howland, of Toronto, Wants a Cabinet—Ottawa's Chief Magistrate Suggests Ward Reduction.

Toronto, Jan. 15.—In his inaugural address, Mayor Howland said that he was in favor of government by cabinet, and that until the board of control was elected and he could consult with its members, he did not wish to make any declarations of policy. He, however, opposed the purchase by the city of the gas works. The election of the board of control resulted in the return of Ald. Sheppard, Frame, Lamb and Hubbard—all Conservatives.

Ottawa, Jan. 15.—In his inaugural yesterday Mayor Morris advocated a reduction of aldermen from three to two in each ward, a repeal of the Council act, the refusal of the city to pay for local improvements, and a consolidation of revenue, etc. Mrs. Morris sat beside her husband as he delivered his message.

BICKLE'S ANTI-CONSUMPTIVE SYRUP stands at the head of the list for all diseases of the throat and lungs. It acts like magic in breaking up a cold. A cough is soon subdued, tightness of the chest is relieved, even the worst case of consumption is relieved, while in recent cases it may be said never to fail. It is a medicine prepared from the active principles or virtues of several medicinal herbs, and can be depended upon for all pulmonary complaints.

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35 Fancy Reefers, for boys from 5 to 11 years, very fine sample coats, bought at a big sacrifice, our regular price \$6 00 to \$7 50, discount sale price ..... \$4 00 and \$4 50

Men's Underwear

Fine Lambswool Fleece-Lined Underwear, odds and ends from season's selling at \$1 00 and \$1 25, discount sale price, very special .... 75c

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Assorted lot, Boys' Fine All-Wool Shirts and Drawers, in all sizes, 1 to 6, regular price from 25c to 68c, discount sale price ..... 20c to 40c

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Very Fine Kid Button and Laced Boots, some with welt soles, some with turn soles, style is not the newest, toes a little pointed, but beautiful, fine stock and perfect-fitting, regular price \$2 50 to \$3 00, sale price is ..... \$1 75

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are better oats grown than in Canada. The climate and soil are especially suited to bring this grain to perfection. From this grain

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